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| WCTRS RESEARCH NEWSLETTER | | | |
|  | **WORLD** **CONFERENCE ON** **TRANSPORT** **RESEARCH** **SOCIETY** | | **SECRETARIAT OFFICE OF THE WCTRS** Institute for Transport Studied  The University of Leeds  Leeds, LS2 9JT England  Email: [wctrs@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:wctrs@leeds.ac.uk)  Website: [www. wctrs-society.com](https://www.wctrs-society.com/) |
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| **In this Issue**     1. [Interview with Eastern Asia Society for Transportation Studies (EASTS) President Dr. JAEHAK OH](#_Interview_with_Eastern) 2. [Article on the 7th International Conference on Land Use-Transportation Overall Planning](#_Article_on_the) 3. [PhD grants announced from the Young Researchers’ Initiative](#_PhD_grants_announced)   **Useful Information and links**    **1. 15th Aalto University Summer School on Transportation (ASTRA)-lectures now available online, with chance of 3ECTS for Graduate Students.**  Graduate students wishing to obtain 3 ECTS should watch the 15 recorded lectures of the 2021 ASTRA summer school and completing an essay assignment related to these lectures.  Essay submission deadline: ***October 31, 2021***  For details, visit: [link](https://link.webropolsurveys.com/Participation/Public/c009ead8-01e3-41c3-a64d-c41eb8402850?displayId=Fin2330324)  **2. Call for Papers on High-Speed Rail, Equity, and Inclusion,** by Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI)  Abstract submission deadline: ***October 31, 2021***  For details, visit:[link](https://www.adb.org/adbi/capacity-building-training/call-for-papers/high-speed-rail-equity-inclusion-mar-2021)  **3. Call for papers for the 2nd International Traffic Safety Conference (ITSC 2022) - ‘Towards A World-Class Safe and Sustainable Transport and Traffic System for Developing Countries’**  Deadline for submission to each track: ***31 December 2021***  Track 1: Abstract submission: [link](http://www.qu.edu.qa/static_file/qu/conference/ITSC/Documents/New%20Updates/ITSC2022-Abstract%20Template_Final.docx)  Track 1: Full paper submission: [link](http://www.qu.edu.qa/static_file/qu/conference/ITSC/Documents/New%20Updates/ITSC2022-Full%20Paper%20Template_Final.docx)  **4. 2nd International Conference on “Transportation Infrastructure Projects: Conception to Execution” (TIPCE-2022)**  Abstract submission deadline: ***January 15, 2022***  For details, visit:[link](http://tipce.iitr.ac.in/call-for-papers/)  **5. Call for papers for Special Issue of Transportation Research Part A: Policy and Practice- ‘Integration of passenger and freight transport’**  Deadline for submission: ***30 April 2022***  For details, visit:[link](https://www.journals.elsevier.com/transportation-research-part-a-policy-and-practice/call-for-papers/call-for-papers-on-the-special-issue-integration-of-passenger-and-freight-transport)  **5. Call for articles for a Special Issue of Travel Behaviour & Society: ‘Post-pandemic mobility’.**  Full paper submission deadline: ***May 31, 2022***  For details, visit: [link](https://www.journals.elsevier.com/travel-behaviour-and-society/call-for-papers/post-pandemic-mobility)  **6. Publications by SIG A4-Handbook on High-Speed Rail and Quality of Life and Frontiers in High-Speed Rail Development**  Both books are free to download.  For details, visit: [link](https://www.adb.org/contact/hayashi-yoshitsugu)  **WCTRS society journals**    [Transport Policy](https://www.journals.elsevier.com/transport-policy)    [Case Studies in Transport Policy](https://www.journals.elsevier.com/case-studies-on-transport-policy)  **WCTRS book series**  For details, visit: [link](https://www.wctrs-society.com/wctrs-publications/wctrs-and-elsevier-transportation-book-series/)  **Find us on**    **Wish to become a member of WCTRS?**  [**Click here**](https://www.wctrs-society.com/membership/)  **Visit us on**  <https://www.wctrs-society.com/>  <https://wctr2022.ca/>  **Email to us at**    **Editorial team of WCTRS Research Newsletter**  **Editor**    **[Prof. Dr. Ashish Verma](http://civil.iisc.ernet.in/~ashishv/beta/index.php)***[,](http://civil.iisc.ernet.in/~ashishv/beta/index.php)*  *[IISc Sustainable Transportation Lab (IST Lab), IISc Bangalore, India](http://civil.iisc.ernet.in/~ashishv/beta/index.php)*  [ashishv@iisc.ac.in](mailto:ashishv@iisc.ac.in)  **Assistant editor**    **H. Gayathri,**  *Research Scholar, IST Lab, IISc Bangalore, India*  [gayathrih@iisc.ac.in](mailto:gayathrih@iisc.ac.in) | Interview with Eastern Asia Society for Transportation Studies (EASTS) President Dr. JAEHAK OH  |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | The WCTRS Research Newsletter Editorial team took a brief interview of President Mr. JAEHAK OH of Eastern Asia Society for Transportation Studies (EASTS).  Below is the full interview with Dr. JAEHAK OH. |   **1. How do you value EASTS association with WCTRS? With the experience so far, in what way you feel the association is useful?**  The Eastern Asia Society for Transportation Studies (EASTS) is the leading and unique society of transportation studies in Asia. EASTS has vision and activities toward sustainable transportation development and people’s welfare which WCTRS is also aiming for.  EASTS currently consist of 19 countries in the Eastern Asia. It was founded in 1994 under the key objectives of 1) fostering and supporting excellence in transportation research and practice, and 2) stimulating professional exchange in all aspects and modes of transportation.  The primary activity of EASTS is to organize, once every two years, a Conference on Transportation Studies. The 1st conference was held in Manila held in 1995 and the recent 14th conference was held in Hiroshima in September 2021. The 2021 EASTS conference was organized in complete online mode due to the COVID 19 pandemic. The conference was held successfully with 529 submitted papers, 449 presented papers, 64 high ranked papers, 4 plenary sessions, 105 technical sessions and so on. I think EASTS made another historical achievement by organizing an online conference.  Other activities of EASTS include a) Promotion of International Research Activities, b) Publication of Journal and Proceedings, c) Conduct of symposia, seminars and workshops, d) Exchange of knowledge and information, e) Promote excellence in the practice of transportation profession through recognition of outstanding achievements and accomplishment, and f) Pursuit of other activities to attain the objectives of the society.  Considering objectives and activities of EASTS, there are many aspects to corporate between EASTS and WCTRS. It means that there are various common interests and research activities to share with WCTRS. Although EASTS is more deeply focusing on transportation issues in the East Asian countries including oceanic regions, in general, research topics or issues for transportation studies are almost same as WCTRS. Especially, transportation research issues responding to the global megatrends such as climate change crisis, 4th industrial revolution and COVID 19 pandemic are regarded as major topics of the conference and international research activities.  The publication of journal and proceedings is an important function. WCTRS has abundant experiences in publishing high quality journals and conference proceedings. Recently, EASTS is investing a lot of efforts and resources in improving the representative journal of EASTS, Asian Transportation Studies (ATS). WCTRS’s renowned two journals, Transport Policy and Case Studies in Transport Research, are good benchmarking journals from which ATS should learn.  In addition, one of the important activities of EASTS is trying to promote excellence in the practice of transportation profession through recognition of outstanding achievements and accomplishment. EASTS thinks that the contribution of the society to the benefit of practice profession is an important element as academic researches are closely related with various impacts of policies and technologies in practice.  **2. What is your vision on transport research and practice post COVID-19? How can it address the challenges faced by transportation sector during and post-COVID-19?**  The COVID 19 pandemic made a great deal of impacts to transportation sector and the future of transportation will face various changes and challenges in travel demand, operation and investment.  During the COVID 19 pandemic, public transport industry and aviation industry have been hard-hit due to social distancing and lockdowns. Ridership and revenue of transportation industry have greatly decreased. COVID 19 pandemic brought various impacts to transportation industries as follows:   * Due to social distancing and fear over infection risks, people have a tendency to avoid using public transport system. As a result, ridership and revenue of public transport decreased and it would be a major threat to transport industries to deal with in the future. * Apart from shared transport, the use of personal mobility such as bicycle, segway and electric kick scooter is rising. This leads to the fundamental change of infrastructure design and allocation of road space. * COVID 19 greatly changed economy, urban structure and travel patterns. The phenomenon of online shopping, working from home and moving houses to sub-urban area has led to changes of travel demand pattern quantitatively and qualitatively.   The future of transport service responding to COVID19 pandemic is going to be upgraded towards more human-centred. Human-centred transport means more individual customized mobility service, especially for elderly, avoiding health risks, promoting reduction of carbon emissions, and improving transport safety level.  Regarding the change in urban logistics, online logistic demand will continue to increase, and automation and smart logistics will be accelerated. At the same time, social security promotion of logistic workers will appear to be an important social issue to be resolved.  **3. What is the action plan of EASTS in addressing some of these challenges?**  In the Board Meeting during the 2021 conference in Hiroshima, EASTS has discussed about the future action plan to deal with the COVID 19 pandemic threats to transportation. EASTS made it clear that the society will play a big role and provide a platform to prepare for transforming transportation in the coming decade 2021-2030.  EASTS needs to extend research interests and topics beyond the conventional transportation planning and engineering research. For example, next conferences will include new research or session topics as follows:   * Human-centered infrastructure planning and operation * Pandemic infection sensitives of public transportation service * Changes of travel behaviour in the future * Transportation impacts of climate change and carbon neutral * Policy and technology development of autonomous vehicles * Policies and operation responding to increasing online economy * Utilization of location based and mobility bigdata service   The bigdata from transportation policy implementation and operation of transportation modes becomes more important for the successful policy making and technology development. Because of advancement of the 4th industrial revolution technologies, transportation system is more connected and generate various data on movement of people and goods. These bigdata will allow us to adopt new approach in transportation planning and operation in order to improve efficiency and better service. The role of the society would be anticipated to share various bigdata among member countries through workshops or regional seminars. An analysis of mobile data and location-based mobility data should be an important research topic to members of EASTS and WCTRS.  **4. Kindly brief us about EASTS and its portfolio of activities being done, and how they can be beneficial to WCTRS members?**  In the last 25 years, EASTS has greatly grown up and expanded as the unique and leading transportation academic society in Asia. EASTS is established with a special focus on establishing domestic societies and promoting roles and activities of domestic societies. Since its foundation of EASTS in 1994, a major effort has been put to organize, maintain, and expand the research activities of domestic societies. As a result, starting with 13 domestic societies in 1994, it has been gathering 19 domestic societies in East Asian region. At the same time, the membership of EASTS has increased to around 1,700 and the number of papers presented in the conference has grown up to 529 in 2021.  I believe that the transportation research activities and information generated from EASTS will be beneficial to the WCTRS members in understanding the evolution of transportation policy and technology development in Asia as well utilizing EASTS as a platform for exchanging transportation research and information specialized in Asian countries. The Asian region is the most rapidly growing continent in terms of economic growth and transportation development. There should be a lot of research opportunities for transportation policy, technology innovations and implementations in practice. There might be many opportunities to learn from each other. Especially, the member countries in EASTS appear to be leading countries to adopt and implement new IC technologies for better transportation efficiency and services.  **5. What do you think could be ways by which EASTS and WCTRS can collaborate and contribute to Sustainable Development and higher Quality of Life (QoL)?**  I believe that there are a lot of ways to collaborate between EASTS and WCTRS for sustainable development and higher quality of life. First of all, responding to climate change crisis and COVID 19 pandemic, two societies have common interests and potentials to support new policy and technology. And we can share success and failure experiences to deal with the aforementioned issues. For example, two societies need to collaborate to support transportation measures and technology innovations toward carbon neutral and global pandemic responding.  Second, transportation measures to be implemented should be based on qualitative and quantitative analysis. Sometimes the results of impact analysis might be different from country to country. It might be necessary to organize workshops to prepare a guideline on how to implement transportation measures without confusion.  Third, the conference of EASTS and WCTRS must be a very important platform to share research ideas and implementation experiences. It would be a desirable to exchange the conference program and also to organize EASTS-WCTRS joint sessions on common topics.  Fourth, the journals are also important to the society members. To improve the quality of journals in terms of high-quality papers and impact factors increase, it might be useful to share information of journal publication and submission of papers to the members of both societies. This corporation in journal publication will naturally lead to the improvement and benefit of both EASTS’ journal ATS and WCTRS’ journal Transport Policy.  Finally, the most important role of EASTS and WCTRS is to educate and train human resources. In the next decade 2021 to 2030, transportation will go through a great transformation. Transportation will be automated, decarbonized, shared and integrated at a high speed. Transportation urgently needs better educated and trained human resources who work for future innovation and challenges.  **Dr. JAEHAK OH, *President of EASTS*** Article on the 7th International Conference on Land Use-Transportation Overall Planning  |  |  | | --- | --- | | Image result for Haixiao Pan | On the 18-19th June, the 7th International Conference on Land Use-Transportation Overall Planning was held in Xi'an Chang'an University. This conference established an in-depth exchange platform for international experts through online and offline video conference discussions. Hundreds of experts and scholars from China, Canada, the United Kingdom and other countries participated in the conference. |   They conducted in-depth exchanges and discussions on the theme of “supporting spatial planning and multi-plan integration”, and shared the integrated planning, land-transportation of Chinese and foreign cities. The cutting-edge academic achievements and successful practical experience of integrated planning models (ILUTMs). WCTRS is one of the supporting organizations for the conference and experts from our society have a valuable contribution to the conference.    **Prof. Haixiao Pan, *Tonji University*** PhD grants announced from the Young Researchers’ Initiative [WCTRS](http://www.wctrs-society.com/glossary/wctrs/) organises the Young Researchers’ Initiative ([WCTRS-Y](http://www.wctrs-society.com/glossary/wctrs-y/)) with the aim of encouraging young members of the society to raise their capabilities, and to network with members in undertaking and managing key activities of the Society. By doing this, [WCTRS](http://www.wctrs-society.com/glossary/wctrs/) prepares a new generation of young colleagues who will gradually take the lead in academic positions and within the Society. One of the key activities is the attribution, every three years of the **WCTRS Ph.D. Students’ Grants**. This program aims to inspire Ph.D. students to compete for further transport research and to be stimulated to submit papers for [WCTR](http://www.wctrs-society.com/glossary/wctr/) conferences. Five grants are on offer: an Innovation grant, of $5000 (USD), and four Prestige grants, of $3000 (USD) each. Many very good abstract proposals were received this year and the selection, made by reviewers from the Steering committee of the Society, was difficult. I want to congratulate the five recipients. The papers that will be developed for the grants will be presented in a special session at the 2023 Conference in Montreal.  **Innovation Grant**   |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | **Karyn Scerri**  **University of Malta:** [**Contact Email**](mailto:karyn.scerri.15@um.edu.mt)  **Project Title:** Understanding the Impact of Pedestrian Intervention on Laziness and Car Dependency Reduction in a European Island. |   **Description**  Sedentary behaviour, including sitting in motorised vehicles, has been linked with negative physical and psychological health repercussions, even in sufficiently physically active individuals. It is therefore pivotal to identify factors and potential determinants associated with this sedentary behaviour, including the role of the urban environment. Within the plethora of studies analysing habits and experiences as psychological determinants, few have delved into the concept of laziness and car use. This research will explore the phenomenon of laziness by measuring people’s perceived physical exertion to walk instead of drive for short-distance trips and apply the ‘Lazy User Theory’ to examine the constructs of people’s lazy user behaviour in modal choice. Using a living lab approach and questionnaire surveys, pedestrian-focused intervention will be used as a tool to analyse laziness as a behavioural determinant for short-distance trips to better understand and assess the potential impact of pedestrian interventions to encourage active travel.  **Prestige grants**   |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | **Vaibhav Puri**  **University of Delhi:** [**Contact Email**](mailto:vaibhavpuri@sggscc.ac.in)  **Project Title:** Effects of Mass Rapid Transit Systems (MRTS) on Changing Urban Landscape: A Remote Sensing-Based Study of Delhi Metro |   **Description**  With more than two-thirds of the world population projected to reside in the urban areas by 2050, Delhi is set to become the most populous city in the world by 2028 as per the United Nations. Urbanisation presses the need for a more effective and sustainable form of transportation network. In light of the ongoing of Metro Rail expansion across the megacity-Delhi, the objective of the current study is to analyse the interplay between urban land-use change and the growth of transit system over time using spatial techniques. Satellite data pertaining to night-light activity and land cover change will be used for analysis. The spatio-temporal variability in urban growth studied through lens of Mass Rapid Transit Systems (MRTS) will prove instrumental in evaluating the potential of resilient transport infrastructures in shaping the future of global cities.   |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | **Mohamed Khachman**  **Polytechnique Montréal:** [**Contact Email**](mailto:mohamed.khachman@polymtl.ca)  **Project Title:** Application of Machine Learning to Spatialized Population Synthesis |   **Description**  Simulations of mobility behaviours require rich datasets describing the population. These datasets, generally unavailable due to privacy issues, are generated through population synthesis. Population synthesis is a process that uses census summary tables and disaggregate samples to create a fully enumerated population with economic and sociodemographic characteristics assigned. To guarantee the simulation’s accuracy, synthetic populations used should be spatialized, ideally, at the housing unit scale. In Quebec, the data recorded as part of the cyclically conducted Origin-Destination (O-D) surveys can be used as disaggregate inputs for population synthesis. The O-D sample’s households are precisely located and assigned to clusters where each cluster reflects a different mobility behaviour. Hence, it is suggested to make use of spatially disaggregated O-D samples to estimate the type of household in each housing unit through various machine learning models, and consequently distribute the synthetic households by correspondence of household type and geographic zone.   |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | **Elodie Deschaintres**  **Polytechnique Montréal:** [**Contact Email**](mailto:elodie.deschaintres@polymtl.ca)  **Project Title:** Assessing complementarity between modes of transport in an urban and multimodal context |   **Description**  Despite increasingly diversified urban transport services, little research has been conducted to understand how the modes interact: questions about their complementarity (or competitiveness) are still raised. Therefore, this project aims at giving some insights into relations between transit and other modes (namely bikesharing, carsharing and taxi) using various passive datasets. First, an algorithm will be developed to identify different types of interactions (first-mile/last-mile intermodal connections, complementarity situations in space, time, service quality/efficiency, or substitutions). An indicator will then be defined to assess an aggregated level of complementarity per spatial-temporal unit (per zone per day for instance) based on the probability of each type of interactions. Finally, the correlation of this complementarity with various factors will be analysed, and the causal impact of this complementarity on the level of use of the modes will be modelled. The results will help clarify the role of each mode in urban multimodal mobility.  **Prestige Grant–**   |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | **Debarshee Bhardwaj**  **Universität Bremen:** [**Contact Email**](mailto:bhardwaj@uni-bremen.de)**:** [**Institutional Profile**](https://www.uni-bremen.de/en/gscm/professorship/team/debarshee-bhardwaj)  **Project Title:** How managers evaluate country logistics performance for global supply chain decision making |   **Description**  Global supply chain design decision (GSCDD) processes such as country selection for locating facilities are extremely complex. Decision-makers must scan large amount of logistics-related country-specific attribute information, such as infrastructure and logistics service quality and demonstrate varying levels of rationality. The standpoint on how managers cognitively use this information for the decision-making is largely missing both in academia and practicality.  As a result, our research, which is based on a case study, offers the first experiences of managers making a country selection decision through exploratory experiments. Our research specifically demonstrates the various issues managers face while going through this process, and what role attribute information plays within the process which can be very useful for a better managerial understanding of the decision process. All in all, we demonstrate how much information or rationality is enough for the managers for different organisational cases in terms of the structure of decision process.  **Prof. Laetitia Dablanc, *leader of the WCTRS-Y Initiative***  **Emma Pickering, *Secretary of the WCTRS*** |

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| October 27, 2021 | Volume 1, Issue 9 |